

anterior border of eye; a strong erectile spine below the nostril; 4 spines at angle of præopercle, upper very strong. Dorsal and anal confluent with caudal, which is pointed; D. XXXI 150; spines short; distance between first spine and head $\frac{2}{5}$ length of latter; A. II 150. Pectoral $\frac{1}{3}$ length of head. Scales very small, 15 between origin of soft dorsal and lateral line. Brownish, marked with darker.

Total length 200 millim.

Stanley Pool, Congo. Collected by Mr. Greshoff. The specimen, now in the British Museum, through the kindness of Prof. Hubrecht, had been provisionally referred to *M. cryptacanthus*, Gthr., by Mlle. Schilthuis (Tijdschr. Nederl. Dierk. Ver. [2] iii. 1891, p. 84).

XIII.—*On the Identity of Polytrema planum of Carter with P. miniaceum var. involva.* By FREDERICK CHAPMAN, A.L.S., F.R.M.S.

IN the Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. for 1876 Dr. H. J. Carter figured and described * a species of *Polytrema* found encrusting old corals, which he compared with a spreading *Melobesia* in its habit of growth. In the following year † the same author described other specimens of a similar organism showing a more advanced stage of growth; and observing a relationship between the structure of this and certain adherent types of *Gypsina*, he proposed to drop the former name, both generic and specific (a method opposed to accepted rules of nomenclature), and to re-name the form *Gypsina melobesioides*. The last-named specimens Carter did not figure. A few weeks ago, however, by the kind assistance of Prof. Jeffrey Bell, I was so fortunate as to find, in the Zoological Department of the Natural History Museum, Carter's type specimen, labelled *Gypsina melobesioides*. This specimen has encrusted the lower part of a sponge from Mauritius.

The enveloping form of *Polytrema* which has been found in such abundance in the rocks and reef-deposits of the atoll of Funafuti, and to which I had given the name *Polytrema miniaceum* var. *involva*, is identical with Carter's type specimen. This identification could not be satisfactorily established from the meagre figure of *Polytrema planum* which Carter gives, whilst his reference to the mature

* Ser. 4, vol. xvii. pp. 211, 212, pl. xiii. figs. 18, 19.

† *Ibid.* ser. 4, vol. xx. p. 172.

organism was not accompanied by any figure. By referring to my description of this foraminifer from Funafuti*, it will be seen that it plays a very important part in the formation and consolidation of reef-rocks, and under certain conditions forms calcareous nodules as large as or larger than a pigeon's egg by continuous laminar growth. The young form of these extraordinary developments, however, resembles the *Polytrema planum* of Carter. My object in writing this note, therefore, is to withdraw the name *involuta* in favour of *P. planum*.

The various forms of *Polytrema* are not alone in making encrusting growths and nodules, for other well-known adherent foraminifera, such as *Gypsina* and *Carpenteria*, encrust and enclose organic particles until they produce more or less spheroidal and elliptical nodules of considerable size; and these I hope to deal with shortly.

XIV.—*Remarks upon the Genus Rhysodes, with Descriptions of some new Oriental Species.* By GILBERT J. ARROW.

THE small Coleopterous family Rhysodidæ, the known species of which are fast becoming numerous, has been separated into various genera according to slight characters, many of which will probably be found insufficient as new forms occur. They will, however, serve for present purposes, if some agreement can be arrived at as to their relative value. The confusion arising from the want of such agreement was largely dispelled by Mr. George Lewis, who published in 1888 a list of the known species. His views, however, have not been entirely adopted abroad, while the adoption of his genus *Epiglymmius* and another (*Rhysodiastes*) since proposed by Fairmaire necessitate, in my opinion, the formation of several more for species exhibiting equally good differential characters. Since commencing this paper I have learnt that M. Grouvelle contemplates the publication of a monograph on the family; and since he has more complete materials than myself, I have reduced my original intention to that of a partial review of the genus *Rhysodes* alone. I shall accordingly leave generic questions entirely to that entomologist, and in the list of species which follows I include all the forms known to me which are distinguished by the possession of wings and the external conformation which accompanies that condition.

* Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond., Zool. vol. xxviii. (1900) pp. 1 and 17, pl. ii. fig. 3, and text-fig. 2.